

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/159,833

Examiner

Jenise E Jackson

Applicant(s)

UTSUMI ET AL.

Art Unit

2131

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 12/6/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3,4,6-8,10-13,15-18,20 and 21.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☒ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date 03032005.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>03032005</u> . |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>03032005</u> | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

Examiner's Statement

1. The Applicant is required to submit formal drawings to the Draftsperson.

Reasons For Allowance

2. Claims 1, 3-4, 6-8, 10-13, 15-18, 20-21, are allowable for the features of: "when an access authorization is requested without entering a password compares the first password and the second password; if in agreement, issues an authorization, and if not, refuses to issue an authorization"; "wherein in the case where a same value has been preserved in the first password and the second password, the password verifying unit copies, a value of the first password to the user input password and collates the same with the second password, thereby permitting an access". The reasons why the claims are allowable for these features is listed below:

3. In the prior art of passwords; prior art fails to disclose or suggest, when an access authorization is requested without entering a password compares the first password and the second password; if in agreement, issues an authorization, and if not, refuses to issue an authorization"; "wherein in the case where a same value has been preserved in the first password and the second password, the password verifying unit copies, a value of the first password to the user input password and collates the same with the second password, thereby permitting an access". An example of prior art that fails to disclose these features is Morisawa et al. Morisawa discloses a password processing function that allows a user to input a first password and second password. Morisawa discloses that a comparison module compares the compressed bit row, which are converted from the password with the compressed bit row of the registered password, if there is a coincidence between the compressed bit rows of the two passwords access is allowed. This in contrast, to the claims, which claims, "when access authorization is requested

Art Unit: 2131

without entering a password compares the first password and the second password, and if in agreement issues authorization". Prior art of passwords, and more specifically Morisawa, discloses a first password that is entered by a user is compared to the registered password.

4. Another example of prior art of passwords, that fails to disclose or suggest, when an access authorization is requested without entering a password compares the first password and the second password; if in agreement, issues an authorization, and if not, refuses to issue an authorization"; "wherein in the case where a same value has been preserved in the first password and the second password, the password verifying unit copies, a value of the first password to the user input password and collates the same with the second password, thereby permitting an access", is Paryzch et al. Paryzch discloses preventing unauthorized access to the hard drive unit by placing an access password on the hard drive itself. Paryzch discloses that the hard drive contains two passwords. The first is a user-defined password and the second is a manufacturer password. Only one of the passwords is required to unlock the hard drive. In contrast, to claims, prior art of passwords fails to disclose or suggest, "when an access authorization is requested without entering a password compares the first password and the second password; if in agreement, issues an authorization, and if not, refuses to issue an authorization"; "wherein in the case where a same value has been preserved in the first password and the second password, the password verifying unit copies, a value of the first password to the user input password and collates the same with the second password, thereby permitting an access". The prior art of passwords compares a user input password to a stored password for comparison, and if the same than access is authorized.

Art Unit: 2131

5. In the prior art of Security, prior art fails to disclose or suggest, “when an access authorization is requested without entering a password compares the first password and the second password; if in agreement, issues an authorization, and if not, refuses to issue an authorization”; “wherein in the case where a same value has been preserved in the first password and the second password, the password verifying unit copies, a value of the first password to the user input password and collates the same with the second password, thereby permitting an access” . An example of prior art that fails to disclose the limitations above is, Felt. Felt discloses authenticating a first party with a first password set, and providing a second party with a second password set. Felt discloses that the password sets have a common member. Felt discloses that the first and second party are authenticated to each other if they contain a common member in their passwords. This is in contrast, to claims, that claim, when an access authorization is requested without entering a password compares the first password and the second password; if in agreement, issues an authorization, and if not, refuses to issue an authorization”; “wherein in the case where a same value has been preserved in the first password and the second password, the password verifying unit copies, a value of the first password to the user input password and collates the same with the second password, thereby permitting an access”. Thus, prior art of network security, fails to disclose or suggest, the limitations above.

6. In the prior art of Networking, prior art fails to disclose or suggest, “when an access authorization is requested without entering a password compares the first password and the second password; if in agreement, issues an authorization, and if not, refuses to issue an authorization”; “wherein in the case where a same value has been preserved in the first password and the second password, the password verifying unit copies, a value of the first password to the

Art Unit: 2131

user input password and collates the same with the second password, thereby permitting an access” . An example of prior art that fails to disclose or suggest, the limitations above, is Huynh et al. Huynh discloses a method of changing a password. The system of Huynh discloses a first receiver for receiving a first password. The system includes a decrypting module for decrypting information in a file that was encrypted with the first password. The system of Huynh discloses a verification module for verifying the decrypted information, and a second receiver for receiving a second password. This is in contrast to claimed limitations that disclose, when an access authorization is requested without entering a password compares the first password and the second password; if in agreement, issues an authorization, and if not, refuses to issue an authorization”; “wherein in the case where a same value has been preserved in the first password and the second password, the password verifying unit copies, a value of the first password to the user input password and collates the same with the second password, thereby permitting an access” .

7. In the prior art of Non-patent literature, fails to suggest or teach, “when an access authorization is requested without entering a password compares the first password and the second password; if in agreement, issues an authorization, and if not, refuses to issue an authorization”; “wherein in the case where a same value has been preserved in the first password and the second password, the password verifying unit copies, a value of the first password to the user input password and collates the same with the second password, thereby permitting an access” . An example of non-patent literature that fails to teach or suggest, the limitations above is Rupp. Rupp teaches a default password, master password, and the ability to hard lock a drive. The default password allows a user to set a password once and use it continually. Rupp teaches

Art Unit: 2131

that the default password is used to automatically lock the hard drive if no new password is entered. In contrast to claims that disclose, when an access authorization is requested without entering a password compares the first password and the second password; if in agreement, issues an authorization, and if not, refuses to issue an authorization". The prior art of Rupp teaches when a user does not input a password, using the default password. There is no teaching or suggestion of comparing the first password with a second password if the password is not entered. There is no mention of Rupp of comparison of two passwords that are the same; the master password and the default password are not compared with each other. Thus, the prior art of non-patent literature fails to teach or suggest the limitations above.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jenise E Jackson whose telephone number is (571) 272-3791. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th (6:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.) alternate Friday's.

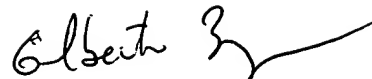
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on (571) 272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Art Unit: 2131



March 5, 2005



GILBERTO BARRON JR.
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100